

Message Text

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14

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CCO-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 L-03 SS-14 NSC-10 STR-08 COM-08 TRSE-00 INT-08

AGR-20 H-02 CIEP-02 OMB-01 RSR-01 /114 W

----- 000036

O 230910 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2553

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 3448

E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: JAPANESE SOFTWOOD LOG IMPORTS

REF: TOKYO 2492; TOKYO A-1277, DEC. 29, 1972

PLEASE PASS STR

1. IN VIEW PROSPECTIVE CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS RE QUESTION SOFT WOOD LOG EXPORTS, EMBASSY ON MARCH 22 ASKED MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY (MAF) FOR LASTEST AVAILABLE INFO REGARDING ITS PROSPECTIVE SOFT WOOD LOG IMPORTS FROM U. S.

2. MAF OFFICIAL STATED MINISTRY HAS ADOPTED FOLLOWING COURSE OF ACTION:

(A) WILL SEEK INCREASED IMPORTS SOFTWOOD FROM OTHER SOURCES (I. E., CANADA, USSR). NOW CONTACTING THESE SOURCES. MAY SEND TRADE MISSIONS IN NEAR FUTURE.

(B) MAF BELIEVES LOG IMPORT SITUATION HAS STABILIZED

FROM PEAK NOV. 1972. THUS, BELIEVES JAPAN'S IMPORTS WILL NOT "INCONVENIENCE" UNITED STATES.

(C) REGARDLESS POINT B ABOVE, MAF TO EXERT STRONG AD-

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MINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE ON JAPANESE IMPORTERS " TO ENSURE JAPAN' S LOG IMPORTS DO NOT INCONVENIENCE UNITED STATES." MAF HAS NOT YET SET GOAL FOR DESIRED LEVEL OF SOFTWOOD LOG IMPORTS FROM U. S. MAF MUST DISCUSS THIS PROPOSED ACTIVITY WITH FAIR TRADE COMMISSION PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTATION. PLANS TO IMPLEMENT THROUGH DISCUSSIONS WITH MAJOR IMPORTERS.

EMBASSY COMMENT: UNLESS DEEMED NECESSARY EMBASSY RECOMMENDS INFO CONTAINED POINT C NOT BE MADE PUBLIC FOR TIME BEING SINCE IT MIGHT WELL EMBARRASS MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS WHO HAVE NOT YET

HAD OPPORTUNITY TO UNDERTAKE NECESSARY INTRA- GOVERNMENTAL DISCUSSION. END COMMENT.

3. EMBASSY ALSO DISCUSSED STATUS OF PROBLEM WITH JAPAN LUMBER IMPORTERS ASSOCIATION (JLIA). JLIA HAS NOT REVISED ITS DEMAND FORECAST FROM 5 PERCENT DECREASE LEVEL INDICATED TO IN REPAIR. IT HAS NOT ANNOUNCED IMPORT FORECAST FOR 1973.

INGERSOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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